

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Austria (Russian Zone)
SUBJECT Status of Siemens-Schuckert AG,
Siemensstrasse, Vienna XXI

PLACE
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1. The present condition of the USIA-controlled Siemens-Schuckert A.G. plant in Vienna XXI, Siemensstrasse, is such that the directors, the Soviet Slavinsky and the Austrian Huber, do not believe it can be maintained in production beyond autumn of this year. Production for May 1948 consisted of only 56 motors from 15-70 HP. To remedy current money shortages in the plant, the directors are now trying to sell a large turret lathe (Karussel-Drehbank) abroad. This lathe, which is specially designed to turn shafts for large electro-turbines, is said to be the only one of its kind in Austria and is reportedly being offered in the satellite states to the highest bidder.

- 25X1X 2. This plant produces only with excessive overhead costs and with the greatest inefficiency. The end products, furthermore, are said to fail to meet quality standards. For example, turning a shaft for an electric motor costs this factory 870 schillings, while it could be produced in another factory for about 230 schillings, if the plant could afford to farm the work out.
3. Here, as in other USIA plants, economy measures are strictly enforced. Not only has USIA halted all capital investments in the factory, but no credit grants can be obtained. The Soviet Military Bank will provide no financial support, but continues to dun the factory for back debts. Austrian banks will not provide credit to any USIA enterprises in view of their unclear status; and USIA concerns have ceased granting credits to each other, since obligations are so seldom met.

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